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LETTER DATED 7 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Today, we have received reports of Serbian acts of cultural genocide against the Muslim population of Banja Luka. Serbian occupation authorities in Banja Luka destroyed two mosques in the city centre using heavy explosives. The Ferhadija mosque was damaged beyond repair. The Armoudija mosque was razed to its structural foundations, while its cemetery was also razed. Both mosques were more than 400 years old, and were the most frequented mosques before occupation by Serbian de facto authorities. Other cultural and civil structures within 1,000 metres of the mosques also suffered extensive damage. Following the destruction of these mosques, many members of the remaining Muslim population in Banja Luka became objects of harassment from Serbian extremists, threatening them with expulsion if they do not leave voluntarily.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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